

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Rickey D. Hart et al.

Serial No.:

09/875,588

Filing Date:

06/06/01

Title:

SURGICAL FASTENING SYSTEM

Group Art Unit:

3731

Examiner:

Julian W. Woo

Attorney's Docket No.:

INNO-15 CON 3 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

Mail Stop Amendment

August 16, 2004 (DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

James A. Sheridan

August 16, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Sir:

## AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Official Action currently outstanding with respect to the above-identified patent application.

Please amend the application as follows:

INNO-15 CON 3